



Eddie A. Perez
Mayor

IT TAKES EVERYONE TO CREATE A CLEAN AND VIBRANT HARTFORD

---NEWS RELEASE---

(September 12, 2008)--- The City of Hartford is working hard to showcase a clean city but government alone cannot achieve this goal, especially in these tough economic times. Whether it is sweeping the streets, picking-up litter, or raking the leaves that will soon be falling, Mayor Eddie A. Perez wants residents to know that we all must work together and stay committed to having a clean and safe city.

“Several efforts are underway through our Department of Public Works (DPW) and our Quality of Life Committee to best serve and respond to the needs and requests of Hartford residents. We hear you when you say you want clean streets and not ones filled with litter and debris. This is a project where we can all work together--- government, businesses, and residents. We have a jewel of a city--- let’s make it shine!”

“Operation Clean Sweep Avenue” is showing positive results as the sweeper machines clean the major arteries in and out of the city three times per week. Blue Hills Avenue, Farmington Avenue, Albany Avenue, Franklin Avenue, Park Street, Main Street and Wethersfield Avenue all connect Hartford to the region and this is our “red carpet showcase” for our diverse businesses and cultural venues. DPW crews are also equipped with vacuums, brooms, and rakes to collect loose trash and litter. All streets are swept during trash collection routes citywide.

There are 700 wrought iron litter receptacles citywide. They are emptied five nights a week and as needed on collection day. What’s new is that DPW is trying out automated litter containers (ALC’s) along the major roadways like Park Street, Main Street, and Albany Avenue. They are also being used at special events and in some of our parks.

Speaking of our historic parks--- they must be litter free! That’s why in addition to the collection of roadside litter containers, the Parks Division has a litter collection program that includes the emptying of litter containers inside the parks as well, so that you and your family can enjoy the open space, gardens, and entertainment--- seven days a week. However, this program relies heavily on seasonal employees, so efforts the city is looking at best practices from other cities to see how everyone in the community can pitch-in and pick-up!

By now, you have probably seen the new billboards throughout the city called “Throw It Away.” This is part of our anti-litter campaign that came from the heart of Hartford’s young people. It demonstrates how the youth of our city do not want to see people throwing trash on the streets they should simple “Throw It Away.” Visit www.hartford.gov to see the public service announcement, which also airs on Channel 21, Government Cable Access Television.

Don’t forget, some of that litter can be recycled. “Go Green Use Blue” is the name of the City’s Single-Stream Recycling Pilot Project. This customer and consumer friendly effort rewards 5,000 households on all five collection days for recycling. These areas were picked to better educate folks on what can be recycled and why it is important to recycle. The more people recycle, the more Recyclebank coupons they earn and those coupons are used at local businesses and that helps spur the local economy.

Please remember that everyone must continue to recycle. Just because your street or neighborhood is not part of this pilot project, that doesn’t mean recycling is over. In fact, the message is just the opposite. We all need to follow the motto: “Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!” It means more now, than ever before. The message is clear: Hartford is committed to a clean environment that all of us can be proud of because all of us have a hand in the success of our city.